

STANDPOINT

by Prof. Dr. Nikifor Hristov Stefanov, Higher Education Area 9. Security and Defense, Professional Directive: 9.1. National Security, on the scientific papers for participation in a competition for the academic position of "professor", in Professional Directive 9.1. National Security, announced in the State Gazette No. 95/08.11.2024,

with candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yordan Stoyanov Doykov

I. Assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements and the requirements of the New Bulgarian University

In the submitted report - self-assessment, the candidate Yordan Stoyanov Doykov has indicated the activities *carried out in accordance with Article 2b of the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the requirements of the NBU, set out in Appendix 2 of the Regulation on the Development of the Academic Staff of the NBU*, which total a numerical value for the indicator groups of 795, with minimum required value of 760, thereby meeting the minimum national requirements towards applicable with respect to his scientific and teaching activities.

II. Research (creative) activity and results

1. Evaluation of the monographic work, creative works or other publications corresponding in volume and completeness to a monographic work, including an assessment of the scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the author.

For participation in the contest for the academic position of "professor" in the Field of Higher Education: 9. Security and Defense, Professional Direction 9.1. National Security, announced in the State Gazette No. 95/08.11.2024, the candidate Yordan Stoyanov Doykov presents a monographic work titled "War, Military Affairs and the Army" /Social Scientific Approaches to Their Conceptualization/, Volume 1. Sociological and Political Science Approaches, scientific translation of Carl Schmitt. "Partisan Theory" and a scientific article

published in the Proceedings of the Jubilee International Scientific Conference "Risks to Ethno-Religious Peace in the Context of National and International Security (in Southeast and Central Europe)", HSSE (The Higher School of Security and Economics), Plovdiv.

The assessment of the monographic work gives me reason to point out below what the candidate Assoc. Prof. -Dr. Doykov has achieved in the course of the research.

- The Candidate has defined the main concepts that he will use in the course of the research. He has provided a thorough and precise outline of the various concepts along with the definitive fixation of their meanings, and most importantly, he has outlined the initial theoretical clarity for dealing with these concepts in the search for a clear understanding of their essence, content and meanings.
- He has formulated a thesis for an admissible sociological approach to the explanation of the three phenomena - war, military affairs and the army, which can essentially be defined as a possible methodological point of view. He has correctly pointed out the fact, that in addition to the sociological approach he proposed, there are also military-sociological and historical-military-sociological approaches.
- He has presented his vision of an approach based on the essence of the political process, a fundamental political science category, such as power and its corresponding dimensions, and the classical relationship of politics to war.

The scientific contributions of the presented monographic work are associated with:

- Application of private scientific approaches in the conceptualization of war, military affairs and the army;
- Derivation of the logic of the methodological approach of the study from the perspective: Social scientific approach - application - war; Social scientific approach - application - military affairs and Social scientific approach - application - army;

- Application of private scientific /sociological, political scientific/ analysis based on a certain methodological toolkit of basic scientific concepts, categories, basic questions, internal scientific paradigms and conceptualizations.

I define the scientific contributions in the attached publications as further developing the knowledge for the professional field of National Security via improving the general, unsatisfactory state of the classical scientific literature available in Bulgarian, and introducing a new approach to interpreting security with state interest through Kremer's concept of realizing the geopolitical imperative of the state itself.

2. Evaluation of the contributions in the remaining attached publications (creative works) made after the appointment to the academic position of "chief assistant" or the academic position of "associate professor" (for candidates for professor).

It can be summarized that the publications presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Doykov, made after his appointment to the academic position of "associate professor", are within the scope and scientific field of the announced competition. They represent independent and completed works with theoretically proven results, published in peer-reviewed publications, which gives reason to conclude that the candidate has a thorough knowledge of the state of the research problem and the contributions of his research.

3. Citation by other authors.

10 citations of the candidate have been found in works by Bulgarian authors.

4. Evaluation of the results of participation in research and creative projects and application of the obtained results in practice.

The results of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Doykov's participation in research and creative projects are positive and applied in practice.

III. Educational and teaching activities

The experience gained over the years and the results achieved in educational and teaching activities have been effectively applied by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Doykov to develop teaching materials in the electronic learning module "MOODLE - NBU", provide student practices and internships and work with students and doctoral students.

The NBU information database contains grades for courses taught by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Doykov from both semesters of the academic year 2022-23, with the average grade from student surveys for this period being very good 4.24 (max 5.00), which testifies to active and purposeful teaching and teaching activities.

IV. Administrative and public activity

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Doykov, as director of the "Laboratory for Specialized Risk and Security Research" at the Department of "National and International Security", purposefully works to attract students to the program.

He is an active participant in the activities of the Bulgarian Political Science Association.

V. Opinions, recommendations and notes on the candidate's activities and achievements

I have no critical notes in essence. I recommend that in his future scientific activity, the candidate should pay greater attention to the study of the process of corporate synthesis and its successful finalization. Also, to more actively present his scientific contributions in international scientific forums.

Conclusion

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yordan Stoyanov Doykov has extensive practical, research and teaching experiences, published scientific papers and *meets the requirements for holding the academic position of "professor"*.

I give a *positive assessment* of the candidate's scientific output and I *strongly agree* that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yordan Stoyanov Doykov be elected to the academic position of "professor" in the Field of Higher Education: 9. Security and Defense, Professional Direction: 9.1. National Security in the competition for holding the academic position of "professor" for the needs of the SANS, announced in the State Gazette, issue 95 of 08.11.2024, and *I propose that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yordan Stoyanov Doykov be admitted to election* by the Academic Council of NBU.

Date: 26.02.2025

Signature